Establishment of gems and jewels park in Rajasthan

1645. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Diamond Corporation of India propose to establish a gems and jewels park in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a Public Limited Company known as the Diamond & Gem Development Corporation, recently incorporated under section 25 of the Indian Companies Act proposes to set up a Gemstone Industrial Park in Jaipur. The Park, being financed on self-financing basis by the shareholder units is expected to be constructed in two phases.

Decline in Export of Cashew Kernel

1646. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a set back in the export of cashew kernel;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the situation;

(c) what have been the export figures relating to cashew kernel for the last two years; and

(d) what are the projections for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Exports of cashew kernels during 1987-88 showed a marginal fall as against the record export during 1986-87.

(b) To step up export of cashew, Government has been granting CCS @8 per cent on export of cashewnuts in consumer packs of 1 Kg. or less. Import replenishment @ 10 per cent on exports of cashew kernals is also being granted. Besides this, the Cashew Export Promotion Council, undertakes export promotional measures by way of sending trade delegations and participation in fairs and exhibitions abroad.

(c) Exports of cashew kernals from India in the last two years have been as follows:

Year	Q y. (MTS)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1986-87*	41759	334.10
1987-88*	36937	322.7

*(Provisional)

(d) The international market for cashew has been fluctuating and the prices are yet to stabilise. Since the current price levels are lower than those prevailing during 1987-88, the volume of export will have to be more to maintain the exports earnings during 1988-89.

Import of oil against outstanding amount from Nigeria

1647. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amounts are outstanding against Nigeria towards exports made to that country;

(b) whether import of oil is being considered against these outstandings; and

(c) whether a similar deal has also been entered into with Libya and Iraq?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. About Rs 47 crores were outstanding in Nigeria as on 30.11.87.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Some Indian companies have individually entered into arrangements with Brega National Oil Company of Libya for release of crude oil against pending bills.